

Coolidge School Science Olympiad Team Placed First in the Massachusetts State Science Olympiad Competition.

Reading, MA, March 17, 2014 – The A.W. Coolidge Science Olympiad Team won first place in the Massachusetts Middle School Science Olympiad State Competition at Assumption College in Worcester, Massachusetts. This is the 21st year they have earned the honor of representing the Commonwealth of Massachusetts at the National Science Olympiad Competition, which will take place at the University of Central Florida on May 16–17.

The Massachusetts Science Olympiad offers middle school students the opportunity to compete with their peers in science and engineering events. This year, 34 middle schools participated in the competition, which consisted of 23 events covering a diverse array of science and engineering content and process skills. Events this year included Rotor Egg Drop—constructing an unpowered autorotation device using one or more helicopter rotors to protect a raw egg as it is dropped to the floor; Meteorology—using scientific process skills to address severe storm topics such as supercell thunderstorms, mesoscale convective complexes, derechos, and dust storms; Anatomy—learning about the integumentary and nervous systems and how aging and specific diseases affect them; and Can’t Judge a Powder—using laboratory chemistry techniques to perform experiments on an unknown powder in preparation for answering questions about the powder.

This year 26 dedicated students comprise the Coolidge Science Olympiad Team and have united in their love of science. Each team member has contributed to the success of the team and maintained the reputation of hard work and sportsmanship for which the team has become known. Congratulations go out to eighth graders Will Bresnahan, Nick Gaudreault, Charlie George, Roberto Jarrin, Fred Pan, Cullen Pu, Chris Rogers, Dustin Rosh, and Nathaniel Smith; seventh graders Kieran DeLacy, Molly Grottkau, Yolanda Jarrin, Matt O’Halloran, Helly Patel, Jahnavi Patel, William Qiu, Barry Richter, Justin Wang, and Kelly Ward; and sixth graders Nicholas Brown, Amogh Morje, Sarah Murphy, Jeffrey Pan, Jeremy Rosh, Ben Rotstein, and Matthew Smith. Collectively the regular team, made up of eighth and seventh graders, earned 8 gold, 5 silver, and 3 bronze medals in the Massachusetts Olympiad. The alternate team, made up of seventh and sixth graders, earned first place ribbons in 6 events, second place ribbons in 4 events, and third place ribbons in 7 events.

This year’s team is led by Head Coach Karawan Meade, a former team member, with the support of Coolidge science teachers John McCarthy and Paul Guidetti, and a team of volunteer coaches who are parents, teachers, community members, and high school student team alumni.

The Coolidge Science Olympiad Team relies on a variety of events throughout the year to raise funds to cover operating expenditures. Upcoming events include the annual community-wide yard sale, which will be held this year on Saturday May 3, and our direct mail campaign. The Coolidge Science Olympiad Team gratefully acknowledges the overwhelming support shown by the community throughout the past 21 years.

The Coolidge Science Olympiad Team is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and all contributions are tax-deductible. For more information about the team and upcoming team events, or to make a donation, please visit www.coolidgescienceteam.org.